

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Bob Lake, on March 31, 2009 at 9:00 A.M.,  
in Room 152 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Mike Miller (R)  
Rep. Art Noonan (D)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. Lee Randall (R)  
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)  
Rep. Jon Sonju (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Chas Vincent (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Jennifer O'Loughlin, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 241, 3/27/2009; SB 245,  
3/27/2009; SB 264, 3/27/2009

Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON SB 241**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:41 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on  
SB 241, Taxpayer Right to Know Act - budget database  
website.

**EXHIBIT** (tah71a01)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:11:01 Don Hoffman, Montana Taxpayers Association  
00:11:23 Holly Franz, Montana Society of CPAs  
00:11:53 Tim Ravndel, Montana Multiple Use Association  
00:13:48 John Barrows, Executive Director, Montana Newspaper  
Association  
00:14:28 Don Hart, Self  
00:16:12 Carl Graham, Self  
00:21:47 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent  
Businesses

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:22:07 Hal Harper, Chief Policy Advisor, Governor's Office

**Informational Testimony:**

00:25:43 Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst,  
Legislative Fiscal Division  
00:26:06 Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director, Legislative  
Services Division

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:06 Rep. Cohenour  
00:27:22 Mr. Schenck  
00:27:32 Rep. Cohenour  
00:28:36 Mr. Schenck  
00:29:22 Chairman Lake  
00:29:47 Sen. Balyeat

00:30:13 Chairman Lake  
00:30:23 Rep. Cohenour  
00:30:34 Sen. Balyeat

**EXHIBIT (tah71a02)**

00:31:56 Rep. Cohenour  
00:32:08 Sen. Balyeat  
00:33:46 Rep. Cohenour  
00:34:16 Sen. Balyeat  
00:36:34 Rep. Cohenour  
00:37:37 Sen. Balyeat  
00:38:58 Rep. Cohenour  
00:39:26 Mr. Schenck  
00:43:53 Rep. Cohenour  
00:44:54 Mr. Schenck  
00:45:58 Rep. McAlpin  
00:46:00 Mr. Schenck  
00:47:06 Rep. McAlpin  
00:47:21 Mr. Schenck  
00:47:43 Rep. McAlpin  
00:47:55 Sen. Balyeat  
00:51:26 Rep. Noonan  
00:52:55 Mr. Schenck  
00:54:53 Rep. Noonan  
00:55:55 Sen. Balyeat  
01:00:00 Rep. Taylor  
01:00:38 Mr. Schenck  
01:01:38 Rep. Taylor  
01:02:21 Sen. Balyeat

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:03:34 Sen. Balyeat

01:06:09 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON SB 245**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:06:31 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on  
SB 245, Revise fiscal note law.

**EXHIBIT (tah71a03)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:13:53 Don Hoffmann, Montana Taxpayers Association  
01:14:19 Carl Graham, Self

01:16:19 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent  
Business

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:17:31 Amy Sassano, Operations and Budget Manager, Governor's  
Budget Office

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:20:30 Rep. Barrett  
01:21:07 Sen. Balyeat  
01:21:40 Rep. Barrett  
01:21:55 Rep. Cohenour  
01:23:03 Mr. Johnson  
01:24:36 Rep. Cohenour  
01:25:26 Mr. Johnson  
01:26:48 Rep. Cohenour  
01:27:07 Mr. Johnson  
01:27:37 Chairman Lake  
01:27:53 Mr. Johnson  
01:28:05 Rep. Cohenour  
01:28:46 Mr. Johnson  
01:29:27 Rep. Noonan  
01:31:32 Sen. Balyeat  
01:34:02 Rep. Barrett  
01:35:22 Sen. Balyeat

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:37:11 Sen. Balyeat

01:41:35 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON SB 264**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:41:46 Sen. John Brueggeman (R), SD 6, opened the hearing on  
SB 264, Revise Montana facility finance authority.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:42:44 Jon Marchi, Montana Ambassadors, Montana Facility  
Finance Authority

**EXHIBIT** (tah71a04)

01:47:18 Dick King, Missoula Area Economic Development  
Corporation

**EXHIBIT (tah71a05)**

01:49:56 Michelle Barstad, Executive Director, Montana Facility  
Finance Authority

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:50:41 Rep. Hoven  
01:51:42 Sen. Brueggeman  
01:53:22 Rep. Hoven  
01:53:44 Sen. Brueggeman  
01:54:48 Rep. Hoven  
01:55:05 Sen. Brueggeman  
01:56:21 Rep. Sonju  
01:57:02 Sen. Brueggeman  
01:57:51 Mr. Marchi

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:00:26 Sen. Brueggeman  
  
02:01:44 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.  
  
02:02:55 Chairman Lake  
02:02:28 Rep. Cohenour  
02:02:40 Chairman Lake

**ADJOURNMENT**

02:03:18 Adjournment: 11:05 A.M.

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Jennifer O'Loughlin, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([tah71aad.pdf](#))**